
Alfreton Urban District Council



**ANNUAL
HEALTH REPORT**

1965

Alfreton Urban District Council

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Public Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR M. HEWITT (Chairman)
Members: All the members of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

“THE FIRS”, HIGH STREET, ALFRETON

Medical Officer of Health:

PHILIP WEYMAN, L.R.C.P. & S.E., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.,
F.R.S.H.
(Telephone: Alfreton 2614)

Engineer and Surveyor:

FRANCIS P. WALTERS

Chief Public Health Inspector:

E. MERCER, M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I. (Retired October, 1965)
B. WELLS, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Cert. for Meat and Food Inspection)
(Smoke Inspector's Diploma)
(Appointed October, 1965). (Telephone: Alfreton 2292)

Public Health Inspector:

R. W. LANDER, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Cert. for Meat and Food Inspection)

Student Public Health Inspector:


MISS J. ROWLEY. (Appointed September, 1965)

General Clerk:

MISS J. CLARKE

Receptionist and Shorthand Typist:

MRS. L. DAY



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1965—6

Alfreton Urban District Council

Chairman: Councillor M. Hewitt

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J. G. A. Green

ALFRETON WARD

Councillor D. McNEILL
„ J. FULLWOOD
„ K. W. BARNES
„ C. WRIGHT
„ R. BOWLZER
„ M. HEWITT

SOMERCOTES WARD

Councillor Mrs. N. L. BRAMLEY
„ W. T. RIMMINGTON
„ H. H. DEAN

RIDDINGS WARD

Councillor F. F. RUSSELL
„ K. HUNT
„ J. W. ROBERTS

SWANWICK WARD

Councillor G. HUNT
„ T. G. ENGLAND
„ J. G. A. GREEN

IRONVILLE WARD

Councillor Rev. J. H. FRANCIS
„ J. S. HEATHCOTE

ALFRETON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the
Alfreton Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1965.

Progressive changes are being made in the report, which will give a picture of the problems of the District rather than an endless report on Acts of Parliament.

Once again the report stresses the problems of older or disabled people. The concept of the "Standard Stranger" is introduced to emphasise the need to look at all situations from the point of view of a person unfamiliar with that situation.

Your Engineer details the problems arising from efforts to provide up-to-date facilities in Public Conveniences. How much is this due to "idle hands" and lack of recreational facilities at "off peak" hours?

The Council must be congratulated on the efforts made to equip all its road drills with silencers. These produce a less offensive noise and are recommended to all users of this type of equipment.

We welcome the appointment as Chief Public Health Inspector, of Mr. B. Wells, who has now settled in his post on succeeding Mr. E. Mercer.

The disappointment of the Chief Public Health Inspector at the absence of progress in promoting Clean Air in the District is shared by many people. A man with chronic bronchitis and asthma complains bitterly as he lies in his bedroom watching smoke pouring out of neighbouring chimneys.

I have to thank the members of the Council for their support and interest. The General Practitioners provide me with much comment and their enthusiasm is a pleasure to meet.

In Health Education and other matters the Press representatives have been most helpful.

I am,
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
P. WEYMAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

The statistics which appear in this report have been compiled from information received from a number of sources throughout the year.

These are kept to a minimum in this report, but some are necessary so that comparisons can be made with previous years.

The Registrar of Births and Deaths for Alfreton, supplies a weekly return, giving details of births and deaths occurring in the area.

Notifications of infectious disease are sent in by Medical Practitioners and in cases of Tuberculosis sometimes by the Chest Physicians and Hospital Medical Officers.

The notification of suspected cases is most important, for instance, in poliomyelitis, food poisoning and dysentery. Telephone communications are much appreciated and can save a great deal of time.

Additional information about infectious disease and undiagnosed illnesses comes from hospitals, school teachers, parents, health visitors and casual conversations. At weekly and quarterly intervals, details regarding infectious disease, births and deaths, are received from the Registrar General. This enables a watch to be kept on any unusually prevalent disease in the County, or surrounding districts or towns.

Information received from Medical Officers of Health or Port Medical Officers about travellers leads to surveillance of persons arriving from Smallpox areas. Sometimes contacts of Paratyphoid cases require examination to ensure that they are free from disease.

Many points occur during the year and are dealt with in a routine manner.

Population

The population of the Urban District at 30th June, 1965, was estimated by the Registrar General as 22,820. This is a decrease of 10 from the estimate made at the same time in 1964.

Births

350 live births were registered, giving a crude birth rate per thousand of the population of 15.3. This figure, when adjusted for comparison purposes by the application of the comparability factor of 1.06 is 16.2. This can be compared with an England and Wales rate of 18.0. See Summary of Statistics.

Infant Mortality

4 Infant Deaths were recorded, all of which occurred under the age of one week.

Perinatal Mortality

The number of still births and infant deaths occurring under the age of one week is 9, giving a rate per thousand live and still births of 25.3.

The following table gives the figures for the last five years:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Rate per thousand live and still births</i>	<i>Rate for England and Wales</i>
1961	14	41.8	32.2
1962	12	34.9	30.8
1963	8	22.3	29.3
1964	9	25.2	28.2
1965	9	25.3	26.9

Still Births

The 5 still births registered give a rate per thousand births (live and still) of 14.1. This can be compared with a rate for England and Wales of 15.7.

Deaths

252 deaths were registered, this gives a crude death rate per thousand of the population of 11.0, which after adjustment by the application of the comparability factor of 1.13 is 12.4, and can be compared with a rate of 11.5 for England and Wales.

Deaths from Individual Diseases

The 252 deaths are set out in Table 5 according to cause and sex.

Disease of Heart and Circulatory System

130 deaths occurred in this group, 57 males and 73 females. The causes of death are given at numbers 17-21 inclusive in Table 5.

52 deaths were due to coronary disease, 35 to vascular lesions of the nervous system, 31 to other heart diseases and 12 to other diseases of the circulatory system.

Cancer

54 deaths, 30 men and 24 women, make this the second largest group.

Death rates per thousand of the population are set out in the Summary of Statistics with comparative figures for England and Wales.

Of the 15 deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus, 14 were men.

Pneumonia and Bronchitis

There were 11 deaths from pneumonia and 14 from bronchitis.

Maternal Deaths

There were no maternal deaths registered in the district.

Tuberculosis

There were 2 deaths from respiratory tuberculosis; both occurred in elderly men, one 73 years of age and the other 75 years of age.

Accidents

9 persons, 7 men and 2 women, died as a result of accidents.

3 men and 2 women died as a result of falls. An elderly man died as a result of burns when he stumbled and knocked over a kettle from the gas ring. A man died following a fall of dirt in a coal mine. 2 men died after being involved in motor vehicle accidents.

Suicide

An elderly man committed suicide by coal gas poisoning.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

140 cases of infectious disease were notified. Measles was responsible for 91% of this number. The incidence of individual diseases was:—Measles 127, Scarlet Fever 4, Pneumonia 4, Whooping Cough 1, Tuberculosis 4.

Measles

127 cases were notified, the majority occurring in children in the 1-9 age group.

The majority of cases occurred during the early part of the year. See Tables 7 and 8.

Scarlet Fever

4 cases were notified in children between the ages of 3-11 years. See Table 7.

Pneumonia

4 cases were notified, all in persons over 45 years of age.

Whooping Cough

Only 1 case was notified in a 3-year-old child.

During the five-year period 1956/1960, 269 cases were notified and this can be compared with the figures for the last five-year period when only 19 cases were notified. See Table 8.

Dysentery

No cases of Dysentery were notified.

Food Poisoning

4 cases of suspected Food Poisoning were notified — these occurred in two families from the same area.

Investigation was carried out and specimens submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, but the cases were not confirmed.

Tuberculosis

4 new cases of respiratory Tuberculosis were notified—3 men and 1 woman. The ages and occupations were varied.

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

S.O.S. Cards and Flashing Lights

S.O.S. Cards have been distributed for some time to single old people or disabled persons or those likely to be left alone, to put in the window if help is urgently required.

There is a reported case of one old person being in an ambulance on her way to hospital within 20 minutes of placing a card in the window.

However, sudden illness or accident may prevent the person placing the card in the window, or it may be lost.

Some two thousand of these cards have been distributed over the years in a population area of 100,000 people. They have been instrumental in ensuring that a thoughtful visit is paid to single old people and a discussion on what they should do in an emergency. This is the real object.

Those who live alone either by desire or necessity run this risk of sudden illness or accident and consequently lack of assistance. This has to be partly accepted or the method of living must be changed.

Group bungalow schemes, warden schemes and neighbourly arrangements reduce this risk very much.

Arising out of these points other methods of calling for assistance have been developed.

Encouraged, sponsored and developed by many people—Rotary Clubs, Home Safety Committees and individuals in many capacities—various designs for flashing lights have been produced and put to use. There are blue flashing lights, orange flashing lights, lights which illuminate signs such as “Help,” some with bell attached to call attention—some mains operated and some battery operated. In fact, a vast variety of methods.

Whichever is used, it is essential that everyone in the area should know its object and how to react if one of these various signals is seen.

There should be an officer or person who keeps a note of cases helped in this way and co-ordinates assistance and sees that all possible needs are met.

If this is done, many of the problems of older people and disabled people disappear.

It is good to know that progress is being made in these directions and that there is more acceptance of the aids available.

Organisations in the area have purchased flashing lights and these are available on loan or purchase.

Accidental Hypothermia

Comment made in previous years is followed by further emphasis.

The leaflet produced by the Central Council for Health Education was widely distributed to many organisations. There is greater knowledge of this condition. Much more thought is being given to providing warmer houses and warmer bedrooms.

Much of these improved living conditions cost money and must lead to a higher cost and higher rents. This means higher pensions to pay for them. From the medical aspect this type of inflation cannot be avoided.

Most of the information circulated relates to older people. It must never be forgotten that this condition occurs in babies and under certain conditions in fit people caught in adverse weather conditions when walking or climbing. This problem is at present the subject of further action.

Loneliness

Most people never give this topic any consideration. A report published in 1957, "Loneliness," by the National Council for Social Service, is a most complete survey of this subject. All organisations and clubs who do social work should read this book to see if the service they give can expand to help some of these people.

The increased interest of younger people is very welcome. Youth leaders and teachers are pointing out the ways in which older people might wish for assistance. Younger people are thus becoming aware of situations which might arise as they grow older. Knowledge of these problems can thus lead to avoidance if proper thought is given. Loneliness may occur at any age. The change in circumstances at the time of retirement needs care and consideration.

Movement of Disabled Persons and of Prams or Wheelchairs

A recent circular from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on access to Public Buildings for the Disabled reminds us of the many other places where careful planning is needed.

How often do disabled people use bus shelters and public lavatories? Does this need to be remembered in design?

Access to pavements after kerbing is sometimes very difficult because of increased kerb heights.

Many blind or partially sighted persons move around freely but must find the modern custom of erecting every conceivable obstacle on pavements most troublesome. Lamp standards may be anywhere on the pavement. Various street signs have more posts. In some towns, pavements are infested with shoulder-high parking meters—a constant source of danger in crowds.

House planning has often been discussed. Absence of steps and adequate hand rails for either hand must be considered.

The Ministry recommend straight staircases with risers of not more than 6½in. to allow use of crutches.

Retirement

More thought is being given to this and its associated pleasure and problems. There is still much work to be done. Many people welcome the day retirement comes, but after three months are fed up. This is the real problem. Untoward dependence on mass entertainment leaves individuals untrained and unpractised in finding pleasurable employment and settling into a community life without the former pressure to work.

Money, food and housing are now being improved. The outlook of the individual is by far the most important in planning and living to a happy old age.

Meals on Wheels Service

Our thanks to the Women's Voluntary Service and all their willing helpers for keeping this most useful service going.

A good balanced cooked meal every day must be the aim.

The Home Help Service occasionally help the older person by cooking a meal when this is possible.

Luncheon Clubs

The Luncheon Club at Swanwick, referred to last year, has had a most successful year. The Club has most enthusiastic support and fulfils the needs of a group of older people. More of this type of club would ensure more happiness amongst some of our older friends.

Laundry Service

An experimental scheme is being run in the area by the County Council. This combines financial assistance and the use of a commercial laundry.

Chiropody Service

This service run by the County Council is meeting an increasing need. Recipients are most grateful and express their appreciation.

Persons in Need of Care and Attention

Close co-operation with family doctors and district welfare officers continues. No action for removal was taken under the National Assistance Acts, 1948-57.

LIGHTING STANDARDS

Short comment was made as follows:—

“A recent visit during a dull day to some offices revealed that the lighting conditions were unsatisfactory.

“Whilst the fittings should have been adequate they were yellow because of deterioration of paintwork and dirty. Some of the fluorescent tubes were many years old and giving out very little light.

Good house-keeping in offices and other places of work requires that:—

1. Light fittings be clean and bright.
2. Tubes and bulbs be changed at reasonable intervals before light emission falls too far.
3. That ceilings and walls be cleaned and re-decorated at frequent intervals.

Poor lighting has an effect on eye strain, untidiness, depressing atmosphere and work output.”

Considerable checking has been carried out since this comment was made. The accumulation of dust on fittings is sometimes quite remarkable.

CLEAN AIR

Cigarette Smoking

Discussion and comment continued during the year on a number of occasions about the dangers arising from cigarette smoking. There is much more understanding of the problem by the people. There seems to be more effort to limit the number of cigarettes smoked and more efforts made to stop smoking. Some effort is made to provide adequate ventilation where cigarette smoking takes place. Unfortunately this is not always satisfactorily employed.

More pipes and cigars are seen and seem to give more enjoyment than the self-consuming cigarette.

Like all bad habits, cigarette smoking if practised to excess has to exact its payment. That this shall be cancer of the lung and may be death, is perhaps more disastrous than the results of other bad habits.

Domestic Smoke Pollution

Apart from the personal pollution of cigarette smoke, general pollution by smoke affects everyone indiscriminately. There is the general health aspect of bronchitis and cancer. There is the dirt aspect, very noticeable this winter in the black mixture of salt, soot and grit on the roads and pavements.

In addition there is the safety aspect in the home. Old appliances are not as safe as the new ones. Old kitchen ranges with bigger chimney openings and more draught are more likely to cause burning of clothing and are usually not protected. Family doctors keep drawing attention to the lack of fireguards.

The great increase in gas and electricity consumption tells the tale of modern heating and the displacement of many dirty, inefficient, inconvenient and old heating appliances. The change is taking place and helps keep down the domestic smoke pollution. Otherwise the pollution would be much worse than it is.

During the year, thought has been given to the problem arising from the siting of one storey buildings in built-up areas next to higher buildings. The position and height of the building often allows smoke to drift down the roof into the garden and perhaps through an open window. The smoke may also be carried into a neighbour's bedroom window if sited next to a two storey building.

The proper answer is a smoke control area. But failing that, it needs proper planning consideration and perhaps prohibition of the use of solid fuel in certain situations. The need to build houses close together makes these points very important.

HOME SAFETY

The Alfreton and Ripley Home Safety Committee has had another active year. This committee is supported financially by the Urban District Councils of Alfreton and Ripley and the Derbyshire County Council.

The Secretary has been kind enough to let me have the following brief list of the activities during the year:—

“Dangers on Holiday” Poster Competition, held in May-July, 1965

280 posters received from Alfreton and Ripley areas—schools and local organisations.

Prize money was £10.

34 children of all ages were awarded a prize.

Winning entries exhibited at the Town Hall, Ripley, and Cornhill House, Alfreton.

Press coverage.

“S.O.S” Cards—These are available from the Secretary if required.

“Flashing Lights”—Available from District Welfare Officer (provided by voluntary organisation).

200 Certificates have been purchased for awards for competitions.

“Kidiproof” container shown to the Committee by a member.

“Penknife” shown to Committee and sent to Nottingham for further enquiries to be made—at the moment nothing has been heard from Nottingham.

“Posters by Children” — Any prizewinning posters painted by children will be forwarded to R.O.S.P.A. when needed, with a view to selecting one poster to be part of their propaganda.

“Medicines with Care” Campaign — In support of this, posters (printed at Nottingham) were exhibited at Doctors’ Surgeries, Chemists, Shops, etc., in the area.

“Advertisements in Transport”—Posters depicting “Safety in the Home” and issued by Derbyshire County Council have been sent to the Trent Motor Traction Co. Ltd., and the Midland General Omnibus Co. Ltd. These posters will be exhibited on 10 buses from each Company for 12 months.

“National Fire Prevention Campaign” — In support of this the Derbyshire Fire Service’s Exhibition Caravan was parked on Ripley Market Place, and the Car Park, Alfreton, for one day during this campaign. Also the St. John Ambulance Brigade demonstrated the mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. The Electricity Board and the Gas Board also gave an exhibition. The Secretary and a delegate attended the National Home Safety Conference held in London.

“Dangers on Bonfire Night” Poster Competition.—This competition was very well supported and 103 entries were received from schools and organisations in the area.

Films—The films entitled “Easing the Effort, “Fabrics and Fireguards” and “Playing with Fire” were shown to the Committee.

“Poisons Weekend” — Paper bags from the Derbyshire County Council were distributed to shops, etc., in the area and the same to be done this coming year. Requests from Police, etc., for materials to enable them to give talks on home safety.

Accidents in the Home Booklet—For distribution to members if required, also leaflets, etc.

Poisons

The setting up of the National Poisons Information Centre must have been a tremendous relief to doctors and hospital casualty officers who are frequently confronted with the result of misuse of modern drugs or accidental overdosage. Information available at short notice on the many drugs available, recommended treatment and a good follow up service will save lives and reduce ill-effects.

Lead

Concern has been expressed at the possible occurrence and effect of lead poisoning. Considered to be under control, doubts have now been raised as to the effect of minimum amounts of lead on children and their development. The import of toys containing lead in their structure, possibly not in an available form, led to renewed interest.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S OFFICE

The office of the Medical Officer of Health at Alfreton, serves Alfreton, Heanor and Ripley Urban District Councils and Ilkeston Borough Council. In addition, the Medical Officer is also an Assistant Medical Officer with the Derbyshire County Council.

The Borough and each District is dealt with entirely separately. This combination of posts is an ideal one. It presents many opportunities for liaison and co-operation.

I have to thank the County Medical Officer and the many members of his staff who have helped and advised me during the year. The pleasant relationship existing is much appreciated and helps a great deal in our mutual interests.

On organisation and methods, efforts are made to keep to a minimum, records and reports. During the past few years material has been eliminated from Committee reports which served no useful purpose. Tables in this part of the Annual Report have been re-written to save paper, and to save the presentation of material which probably has no useful purpose. It was found that an amount of work was being done just because it had been done for years.

PROTECTION AGAINST DISEASE

Detailed comment was made last year on vaccination and immunisation. The level of protection of children is not unsatisfactory except against smallpox. The lack of appreciation by adults of the unnecessary risks and inconvenience they run by proceeding overseas without being vaccinated against smallpox or against typhoid and paratyphoid is difficult to overcome. Holidays abroad with a reaction following emergency vaccination seems a high price to pay for neglect to obtain protection as a routine. Those who have to travel abroad on business should maintain up to date vaccination certificates. Those who travel for pleasure can do the same without undue trouble.

HEALTH EDUCATION

During the year information about prevention of cancer (cancer of the cervix, lung cancer) has been circulated. Comments have been made about cigarette smoking and its dangers. The importance of preventing accidental hypothermia in old and young has been stressed. This reinforced our policy of encouraging the supply of background heat in bedrooms.

The prevention of spread of infection from raw meat was discussed and emphasised.

The problems of older people have been emphasised time and time again and more attention is now given to them.

Preliminary comment has been made on the development of screening techniques for various defects and early detection of diseases.

The need for raised toilet seats for those with severe arthritis has been emphasised. The low level suites are not suitable for older people.

Noise from unmuffled road drills was discussed and trials on muffled drills carried out.

The poster board campaign continues. Clean Air, Cigarette Smoking, Rats, Dustbins, Flies, Immunisation against Disease are some of the topics illustrated.

Circulars go out to interested organisations during the year.

The support of the County Council Health Education team is much valued. Their readiness to assist in many matters is very much appreciated.

SWIMMING BATHS

The open-air baths continue to give a vast amount of pleasure during fine spells of weather.

Some difficulties are experienced in obtaining satisfactory standards in the paddling pool. The problems continue to be explored.

WATER SUPPLIES

Increased consumption and new industries have led to new mains being laid and variation in source of supply.

The water remains satisfactory from the health point of view, but the increased hardness led to comments on soaps and deposits in boilers and kettles. Further equipment to be installed by the South Derbyshire Water Board will make some improvement.

SEWERAGE SCHEME

Increased consumption of water requires means of disposal. Consideration is given to this at intervals, especially in connection with the progress of the new sewerage scheme.

TRAFFIC AND DEVELOPMENT

The process of building the M.1 motorway which will pass within a short distance of the town brings problems of heavy traffic. As in most towns the roads which exist through the town prove inadequate for the number of larger delivery vehicles and the large number of cars. The provision of car parks has helped greatly in the town centre.

The addition of heavy vehicles engaged in carrying material to the motorway temporarily increases the heavy burden carried by the roads. As the building of the motorway progresses some heavy traffic passes on elsewhere.

It will be of interest to note how much of the through traffic eventually uses the new motorway.

The town will become very accessible to many parts of the country. This should encourage more industry and more people to come and live on the edge of the "country" part of Derbyshire.

The help given by the Council and its officers has encouraged many firms to move into the area. We hope for many more.

THE STANDARD STRANGER

There are many situations where it is necessary to consider the concept of the standard stranger. Nowhere, however, is it more necessary than when considering the prevention of accidents and traffic problems.

The vast variety of road signs, endless traffic re-routing arrangements and strange situations make it necessary to ensure that the standard stranger can go easily, quickly and safely from origin to destination.

Some situations cause confusion, hesitation and perhaps an accident situation.

It is easy for the local inhabitant or the local officer to forget that other people use the facilities of a town.

Most towns erect road signs leading the motorist to car parks. A strange motorist may have great difficulty in getting out of the car park onto his chosen route as no signs exist in or near car parks.

Long distance travel at night in pouring rain is a nightmare at times. Once off the main signposted routes the age of the horse is remembered as the old style crossroad signs still remain.

We are told that lane discipline in the Midlands is poor. No wonder! One lane is always blocked by a parked vehicle. Advance signposting to enable selection of the right lane is often defective and inadequate.

The corkscrew minds who create inadequate roundabouts without rules or directions seem to represent a poor attitude to traffic.

Doctors may employ locums who may have to do urgent night calls and find great difficulty in finding their way with poor or absent street signs, houses with numbers absent or painted over. This applies to ambulance services and to new personnel of all kinds. A great deal of time may be wasted in trying to find a particular address even during the day.

All these many instances could be reported on by a “standard stranger.” If action was then taken we should have a safer, easier existence.

We need a “standard stranger” in a wheelchair to report on problems encountered.

We need a “standard stranger” old person to report on the safety or otherwise of purpose built accommodation.

An accumulation of simple reports should lead to informed action.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

General Statistics

Area in Acres	4,957
Population (estimated)	22,820
Population per acre	4.6
Number of Inhabited Houses	7,621
Rateable Value	£621,036
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£2,552
Live Births registered	350
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births	6.3
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.3
Adjusted Birth Rate (comparability factor 1.06)	16.2
Birth Rate, England and Wales	18.0
Still Births registered	5
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Births (live and still)	14.1
Still Birth Rate, England and Wales	15.7
Deaths registered	252
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.0
Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 1.13)	12.4
Death Rate, England and Wales	11.5
Maternal Deaths (Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion)	—
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	—
Maternal Mortality, England and Wales	0.25
Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age)	4
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	11.4
Infant Mortality, England and Wales	19.0
Infant Deaths (legitimate) under 1 year of age	4
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births legitimate	12.2
Infant Deaths (illegitimate) under 1 year of age	—
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births illegitimate	—
Infant Deaths (under 4 weeks of age)	4
Neonatal Mortality per 1,000 live births	11.4
Neonatal Mortality, England and Wales	13.0
Infant Deaths (under 1 week of age)	4
Early neonatal mortality per 1,000 live births	11.4
Perinatal Deaths (still births and deaths under 1 week of age)	9
Perinatal Mortality per 1,000 live and still births	25.3

Death Rate per 1,000 population from:

Tuberculosis, Respiratory	0.088
Tuberculosis, Respiratory, England and Wales	0.042
Tuberculosis, other forms	—
Tuberculosis, other forms, England and Wales	0.006
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	0.657
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus, England and Wales	0.553
Cancer, other forms	1.709
Cancer, other forms, England and Wales ...	1.674

Table 1. BIRTHS

<i>Births</i>	<i>Legitimate</i>			<i>Illegitimate</i>		
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live	167	161	328	8	14	22
Still	3	1	4	1	—	1

Table 2. STILL-BIRTHS. 1955-65

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Rate per thousand Births (live and still)</i>
1955	13	37.4
1956	7	18.5
1957	11	26.5
1958	7	20.2
1959	9	24.9
1960	12	32.4
1961	9	26.9
1962	7	20.8
1963	6	16.8
1964	4	11.2
1965	5	14.1

Table 3. INFANT AND PERINATAL MORTALITY

<i>Infant Deaths</i>	<i>Legitimate</i>			<i>Illegitimate</i>		
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 1 year of age	3	1	4	—	—	—
Under 4 weeks of age	3	1	4	—	—	—
Under 1 week of age	3	1	4	—	—	—
Perinatal Deaths	6	2	8	1	—	1

Table 4. COMPARATIVE TABLES—1955-1965

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population (estimated)</i>	<i>Birth Rate (per 1,000 of population)</i>	<i>Death Rate (per 1,000 of population)</i>	<i>Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)</i>
1955	23,430	14.3	9.1	26.9
1956	23,480	15.8	10.3	24.8
1957	23,680	17.1	11.6	24.8
1958	23,190	14.7	10.3	17.7
1959	23,480	15.0	10.7	34.0
1960	23,460	15.3	10.3	19.5
1961	23,110	14.1	10.6	27.6
1962	23,050	14.6	11.6	32.6
1963	23,020	15.3	11.1	14.2
1964	22,830	15.5	11.1	28.3
1965	22,820	15.3	11.0	11.4

TABLE 5
Causes of Death

		M.	F.	Total
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	2	—	2
2	Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8	Measles	—	—	—
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	6	2	8
11	„ „ Lung, Bronchus	14	1	15
12	„ „ Breast	—	9	9
13	„ „ Uterus	—	2	2
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	10	10	20
15	Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	—	3	3
16	Diabetes	—	3	3
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	12	23	35
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	29	23	52
19	Hypertensions with Heart Disease ...	2	—	2
20	Other Heart Disease	9	20	29
21	Other Circulatory Disease	5	7	12
22	Influenza	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia	5	6	11
24	Bronchitis	12	2	14
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	2	2	4
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	2	—	2

27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	—	1	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—
31	Congenital Malformations	1	—	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	8	7	15
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	—	2
34	All other Accidents	5	2	7
35	Suicide	1	—	1
36	Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—
All Causes		129	123	252

Table 6. TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS—1955-1965

Year	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Grand Total
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
1955	2	5	7	—	—	—	7
1956	6	2	8	1	3	4	12
1957	15	3	18	—	1	1	19
1958	7	2	9	—	1	1	10
1959	13	2	15	—	1	1	16
1960	4	1	5	1	—	1	6
1961	4	3	7	—	—	—	7
1962	1	1	2	—	—	—	2
1963	3	1	4	3	1	4	8
1964	1	1	2	—	—	—	2
1965	3	1	4	—	—	—	4

Table 7. DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1965.

		AGE GROUPS			
		Measles	Pneumonia Acute	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough
All Ages		127	4	4	1
Under 1 year		7	—	—	—
1		23	—	—	—
2		13	—	—	—
3		22	—	1	1
4		21	—	—	—
5		38	—	1	—
10		2	—	1	—
15		1	—	—	—
25		—	—	—	—
35		—	—	—	—
45		—	1	—	—
65 and over		—	1	—	—
Age Unknown		—	2	1	—

Table 8
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
1955—1965

	Anthrax	Diphtheria	Dysentery	Encephalitis	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Measles	Meningococcal Infection	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia Acute	Poliomylitis Acute	Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Smallpox	Whooping Cough
1955	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	62	—	—	1	2	—	7	—	16
1956	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	2	—	—	2	—	123
1957	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	512	—	—	2	—	1	17	—	—
1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	2	3	2	4	—	99
1959	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	221	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	2
1960	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	—	7	—	—	3	—	45
1961	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	408	—	1	15	—	—	12	—	2
1962	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	2	—	—	11	—	—
1963	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	342	—	—	2	1	—	17	—	5
1964	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	173	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	11
1965	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	127	—	—	4	—	—	4	—	1

Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on register</i>	<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	7	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	91	39	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	2135	—	—
<i>Total</i>	100	2181	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>by H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	1	—
<i>Total</i>	2	1	—	2	—

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

<i>Nature of Work</i>	Section 133			Section 134		
	<i>No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of pros- ecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel, making etc. cleaning & washing	43	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen	2	—	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace cur- tains & nets	2	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i>	47	—	—	—	—	—

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for the year 1965:—

The greater part of the work of the department was under my predecessor, Mr. E. Mercer, who retired from his office in October, following 32 years' service with the Council.

Staff

With the revision in the staffing of the Department, Mr. R. Lander became First Additional Inspector, and it was resolved that in view of our responsibility for Meat Inspection at the new Fatstock Marketing Corporation Abattoir that an Authorized Meat Officer be employed.

Mr. D. Wrigglesworth was subsequently appointed and commenced duties in January, 1966.

NUISANCES

Systematic inspection of the district is carried out for the detection of nuisances. 90 Preliminary Notices were served and 7 Statutory Notices. No legal proceedings were taken.

COMPLAINTS 1965

The following list has been extracted from the Complaints Book. Every complaint received is recorded and a visit and enquiry made into the circumstances.

Absence of Water Supply	...	...	...	7
Burst Pipes	...	...	...	23
Choked Drains	...	...	...	45
Dampness to houses	...	...	...	41
Defective brickwork	...	...	...	4
brickwork to fireback	...	...	...	4
concrete	...	...	...	3
ceiling plaster	...	...	...	16
chimney stack and pots	...	...	...	5
cooking range	...	...	...	4
doors	...	...	...	12
door frames	...	...	...	6
door furniture	...	...	...	3

drains	...	...	...	...	12
dustbins	...	...	...	...	52
eavesgutters	...	...	...	...	15
flashings to chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	8
floors	...	...	...	...	5
hot water system	...	...	...	...	5
iron covers to inspection chambers	...	...	...	...	2
outside decoration	...	...	...	...	4
oven cheeks	...	...	...	...	4
pan closets	...	...	...	...	12
paving	...	...	...	...	3
pointing to brickwork	...	...	...	...	20
rainwater downspouts	...	...	...	...	9
ridge fillets	...	...	...	...	4
rising main	...	...	...	...	2
roofs	...	...	...	...	25
sinks	...	...	...	...	1
sink waste pipes	...	...	...	...	6
wall	...	...	...	...	5
wall plaster	...	...	...	...	27
wash hand basin	...	...	...	...	1
w.c. cisterns	...	...	...	...	13
w.c. pedestals	...	...	...	...	15
w.c. seats	...	...	...	...	9
windows	...	...	...	...	26
window cords	...	...	...	...	17
window frames	...	...	...	...	22
window furniture	...	...	...	...	1
Articles lost in Salvage	...	...	...	...	7
Foreign substances in food	...	...	...	...	8
Leaking cesspools	...	...	...	...	1
Noise nuisances	...	...	...	...	1
Obnoxious smells	...	...	...	...	16
Offensive accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	2
Salvage not collected	...	...	...	...	13
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	8
Dustbins not emptied	...	...	...	...	31
Vermin: Ants	...	...	...	...	9
Beetles	...	...	...	...	9
Mice	...	...	...	...	11
Rats	...	...	...	...	42
Wasps	...	...	...	...	21
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	103
Pigeons	...	...	...	...	2
Crickets	...	...	...	...	1
Total					783

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

House and Trade Refuse:

Portable ashbins in use and emptied by the Council	8805
Premises visited for collection of trade refuse under agreement	34
Premises visited for collection of salvage	196

Nightsoil:

Pail closets emptied by Council	175
Closet sumps emptied by Council	0
Cesspools emptied by Council	55
Water closets in area	7142

Conversions:

Pail closets converted to water carriage system during the year	79
--	----

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936 — SECTION 47 W.C. CONVERSION SCHEME

During the year continual progress was made in converting the remaining pail closets in the Pyebridge, Somercotes, Riddings, Ironville, Swanwick and Leabrooks parishes to water carriage.

We have commenced also the scheme for replacing the open sink waste channels with correctly placed trapped gullies. These channels taking sink wastes have always been a source of nuisance, particularly in warm weather and when they have not been cleaned out regularly.

SWIMMING POOLS

The Alfreton Lido provides a much needed and popular facility in the district. Collection of water samples for bacteriological examination is carried out during the open season, and we endeavour to take these samples during peak swimming periods.

Twenty-eight samples were taken during the season; two from the paddling pool were classified as "unsatisfactory" and the remainder "satisfactory."

Consequently, improvements to the filtration of the paddling pool are envisaged for the 1966 season.

WATER SUPPLY

During December I was instructed to take water samples for analysis and report to the Committee regarding the hardness of water being supplied to certain parts of the district.

The following result was obtained:—

Hardness				Parts per million
Temporary	...	...	...	135
Permanent	...	...	...	65
Total				<hr/> 200 <hr/>

The South Derbyshire Water Board explained to the Committee that mixing of waters was now taking place, so that areas which had had a predominantly soft water would receive a harder water, the eventual figure being a total hardness of 150 p.p.m.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 — SECTION 75 DUSTBINS

The system of replacing defective dustbins is as follows:— Defective bins are reported by refuse collectors. A letter is then sent to the owner requesting replacement of the defective bin. After a lapse of a reasonable time, a Statutory Notice is served on the owner, giving him 28 days in which to provide same.

The unsatisfactory containers, viz: wash-tubs, oil drums, etc., made their unwelcome appearance from time to time and such premises were visited to arrange for provision of a satisfactory dustbin.

283 new dustbins were provided at 88 private premises, 191 council houses and 4 other council premises. 89 Preliminary Notices and 2 Statutory Notices were served.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 — SECTIONS 235-248 COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is only one common lodging house in the district. This is registered for 20 male inhabitants. It is frequently visited, the rooms are clean, well ventilated, and the walls and ceilings are painted to facilitate cleansing at prescribed intervals. Cooking facilities and washing accommodation are satisfactory, all beds are clean and comfortable.

Instruction is afforded to Student Public Health Inspectors and this is one of the Public Health Services we can show to colleagues who do not have a Common Lodging House in their district.

HOUSING

No houses were received for Slum Clearance purposes during the year and subsequently the large programme ahead remains to be tackled at a later date.

HOUSING ACT, 1957

During the year the following work has been carried out:—

Houses Erected:

(a) by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	48
(b) by other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	...	10

Houses under erection:

(a) by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	16
(b) by other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	...	20

Inspection of dwelling houses:

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Act))	...	...	...	...	...	301
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of action (formal or informal) by the local authority	...	...	...	...	...	14
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	11
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	...	...	...	16
Number of persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of dwelling houses where undertakings have been accepted that have become empty	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were determined	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of premises in respect of which closing orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of applications for improvement grants approved by the Council (houses involved)	...	...	...	...	...	52

The following table summarises the four quarterly returns made to the Ministry during 1965.

Houses in Clearance Areas and Unfit Houses Elsewhere, Return for the year 1965

A—Houses Demolished

	Houses Demolished	Displaced Persons	during year— Families
In clearance areas	0	0	0
Not in clearance areas:			
(4) as a result of formal or informal procedure under Sect. 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	16	3	2

HOUSING ACT, 1964

E—Unfit Houses made Fit

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by local authority	11	0
F—Houses in which defects were remedied (other than unfit houses made fit) after formal notice under Public Health Acts		3

Houses demolished during the year:—

In clearance Areas:

Nil.

Individual Demolition Orders:—

Alfreton	46 Mansfield Road.
Somercotes	Willow Farm, Sleetmoor Lane. 225, 227, 229, 231 Nottingham Road. 199, 201 Sleetmoor Lane.
Riddings	107, 108, 109 High Street. 62, 63 Greenhill Lane.
Leabrooks	43, 44, 45 Swanwick Road.

Overcrowding.—Enquiries were made into several cases of overcrowding and the facts were reported to the Housing Department, and the Public Health Committee. It is most difficult to deal with these cases as houses for the relief of overcrowding are just not made available to the department.

Improvement of Houses

Messrs. James Oakes & Co. (Riddings) Ltd.

Structural alterations and improvements carried out during 1965 to the property owned by the above were as follows:—

7 to 21 Fletchers Row, Ironville (21 houses)	W.C. conversions
41 West Street, Riddings.	Installation of electric power points
28 High Street, Riddings.	„
8 Market Place, Riddings.	„
35 Church Street, Riddings.	„
19 Mount Pleasant, Riddings.	„
9 Market Place, Riddings.	„
16 Spring Road, Riddings	Hot water installation (back boiler type) bath and wash basin

RENT ACT, 1957

Certificates of Disrepair

During the year, 1 application for Certificate of Disrepair was received and approved. 2 applications for cancellation of Certificates were approved.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Part 1. General provisions and sale of food and drugs.

Sections 1 - 7

Sampling of Food and Drugs is undertaken by the County Analyst as the Food and Drugs Authority. Mr. J. Markland has kindly supplied me with information of such work carried out by his department as follows:—

“91 samples of Food and Drugs were taken under the above Act in the area of the Alfreton Urban District Council during the year 1965.

“A sample of Olive Oil was rancid and a sample of Potted Meat was deficient in meat. The vendors were cautioned. Two samples of Canned Prunes contained excess tin. Both were from the same shop and remaining stock was withdrawn from sale.

“Due to the prolonged illness of the late County Sampling Officer no samples of Milk were taken in your area during 1965. I expect sampling to return to normal during the current year.

“Several samples were examined for your Authority following consumer complaints. A loaf of Bread was mouldy and a piece of Cheese infested with maggots. In each instance the supplier was cautioned. A can of Corned Beef was found to be decomposed when opened. This was due to a small puncture in one corner of the can. It appeared that the damage had been sustained at some time between canning and sale.”

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF UNSOUND FOOD

Section 8—12

All condemned food excepting meat is taken to the Council's Depot at Leabrooks where it is satisfactorily disposed of.

	lbs.	ozs.
Total weight of food condemned during 1965:	1,151	13

FOOD HYGIENE (General) REGULATIONS, 1960

Food Hawkers.—The absence of satisfactory legislation still remains a vexed question amongst Public Health Inspectors and the Food Trade itself.

Food Shops—36 Preliminary Notices involving non-compliance with various regulations were served on owners and occupiers of food shops in the area.

The following is a list extracted from the notices:—

Regulation 5—Unsanitary Premises	...	...	1
Regulation 6—Maintenance of Machinery and Equipment	...	...	9
Regulation 8—Protection of food from risk of contamination	...	...	4
Regulation 9—Smoking whilst handling food	...	...	2

Regulation 14—Condition of sanitary conveniences	13
Regulation 16—Facilities for washing hands ...	12
Regulation 17—Facilities for First-Aid	15
Regulation 18—Facilities for outdoor clothing ...	3
Regulation 19—Facilities for washing equipment	7
Regulation 23—Cleanliness and repair of food rooms	32
Regulation 24—Accumulation of refuse	2
	<hr/> 100 <hr/>

Early action was taken in each instance to secure compliance with the provisions of the Regulations.

Alfreton Market. — Regular inspections are made by your Inspectors of the food stalls on the open market in Institute Lane. In the main the stallholders are co-operative and only sweets, confectionery, fish, fruit and vegetables are sold.

The Council do not permit butchers to have stalls on this open market. This is a wise policy.

I am pleased to report that the Council have provided toilet facilities on Alfreton Market.

LICENSED PREMISES

There are 41 licensed premises in the urban area, situated as follows: Alfreton 17, Somercotes 9, Leabrooks 2, Pye Bridge 1, Ironville 1, Golden Valley 1, Swanwick 4 and Riddings 6.

Plans are regularly deposited with the Local Authority for the improvement of toilet facilities on licensed premises. In many cases, work of improvement has been carried out. In others, work was in progress at the end of the year.

Notice is taken of the remarks of the Licensing Justices at Brewster Sessions in February each year.

Routine inspections are made to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

ICE CREAM (Heat Treatment, etc.) REGULATIONS, 1959

All premises in which ice cream is manufactured, stored and sold have been subjected to regular inspection. All premises registered must be suitably lighted and ventilated, and have satisfactory washing facilities, hot and cold water, clean towels and soap available.

During the year three food traders applied for registration of their premises for the sale of ice cream as follows:—

Mrs. I. Padley, 85 High Street, Riddings.

Leslie Miles, 48 Quarry Road, Somercotes.

Mrs. G. West, 72 High Street, Alfreton.

During the year 61 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for examination. The results were as follows:—

Grade 1	45 samples	Grade 3	2 samples
Grade 2	10 samples	Grade 4	4 samples

In the case of unsatisfactory samples further check samples were taken, and proved to be satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION

In October the Fatstock Marketing Corporation opened their new abattoir at Swanwick. As was to be expected a considerable amount of adaption was needed by the slaughtermen to succeed in line dressing, but as the operatives became more practised the reduction in physical effort was noticeable and increased throughput in shorter working hours was achieved. I am particularly pleased to report that Sunday slaughtering was discontinued.

When it is remembered that only 2-3 years ago meat inspection was being carried out up to 9 p.m. on weekdays and also on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year, the benefit to the staff of the department will be appreciated.

The following animals have been inspected during the period 1st January to the 31st December, 1965, and represents 100% inspection.

Beasts	.....	13,324
Calves	.....	204
Pigs	.....	11,644
Sheep	.....	15,027
		<hr/>
		40,199
		<hr/>

Animals Killed and Inspected

			Beasts	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
Alfreton							
1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
2	...	...	135	—	669	18	822
Somercotes							
3	...	...	—	—	103	191	294
Leabrooks							
4	...	...	891	5	1207	2175	4278
Riddings							
5	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Swanwick							
6	...	...	60	—	79	262	401
7	...	...	12238	199	9586	12381	34404
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			13324	204	11644	15027	40199
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

During this period the total weight of meat and offal condemned amounted to 37 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lbs.

The following carcasses were condemned:—

Calves

- 6 Immaturity
- 1 Hydræmia
- 1 Toxæmia
- 1 Septicæmia

Beasts

- 2 Extensive Bruising
- 1 Septic pneumonia
- 10 Septicæmia
- 2 Hydræmia
- 3 Emaciation
- 2 Septic pericarditis
- 1 Bone taint
- 1 Oedema
- 1 Generalised cysticercus bovis
- 2 Fevered
- 1 Pathological fatty infiltration

Pigs

- 7 Pyæmia
- 2 Emaciation
- 2 Oedema
- 2 Swine erysipelas
- 2 Septicæmia
- 1 Uræmia
- 1 Burst rupture

Sheep

- 19 Emaciation
- 3 Septicæmia
- 1 Septic metritis
- 1 Inefficient bleeding
- 1 Oedema
- 1 Fevered
- 1 Leukæmia and hydræmia

Total weight condemned — 16,347 lbs.

Weight of offal condemned amounted to:—

Beef	—	Part carcasses	...	...	...	4217 lbs.
Beef	—	Offal	...	...	...	58453 lbs.
Pork	—	Part carcasses	...	...	...	1186 lbs.
Pork	—	Offal	...	...	...	1674 lbs.
Mutton	—	Part carcasses	...	...	...	249 lbs.
Mutton	—	Offal	...	...	...	900 lbs.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>			<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	2574	10750		204	15027	11644
Number inspected	2574	10750		204	15027	11644
All diseases except T.B.—						
Whole carcases condemned	2	23		9	31	17
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	87	3936		1	291	196
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than tuberculosis	3.4%	36.7%		4.9%	2.1%	1.8%
Tuberculosis only—						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—		—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	2		—	—	90
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	0.0%	0.01%		0.0%	0.0%	0.7%

Cysticercus Bovis

24 cases were detected in 1965 and the cold storage facilities used were at Chesterfield, Sheffield and Derby. It is our custom to inspect the certificate issued by the Manager of the receiving Cold Storage Depot and record the date and the number of the same.

Slaughtermen

39 licences have been issued to slaughtermen in this district. All trainees are tested in their skill in the use of a mechanically-operated instrument before a licence is issued to them.

THE SHOPS' ACT

The following details have been extracted from the register of shops:—

	<i>Canteens and Cafes</i>	<i>Food Shops</i>	<i>Other Premises</i>	<i>Total</i>
Alfreton	25	75	122	222
Somercotes	15	58	49	122
Leabrooks	2	12	13	27
Riddings	6	25	23	54
Swanwick	7	19	17	43
Pye Bridge	1	3	1	5
Ironville and Codnor Park ...	3	13	9	25
Golden Valley	1	3	—	4
	60	208	234	502

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The Surveyor co-operates with the department by submitting to me all plans in respect of factories for my perusal and observations, prior to planning permission being granted. The system works very satisfactorily.

Deletions from and additions to the list of Factories and Workplaces noted by H.M. Inspector of Factories reported to me on Form 143, Section 8(3) are duly recorded and the Register kept up to date at all times. 100 premises are listed in the Register.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Generally premises occupied by office and shop workers in the district have been of a reasonable standard and consequently compliance with the provisions of the Act has not presented any great difficulties to the employers.

The following are the details submitted to the Ministry as Annual Returns:—

TABLE A
Registrations and General Inspections

<i>Class of premises</i>	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Total number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Offices	4	37	6
Retail Shops	14	155	64
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	6	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ...	3	20	4
Fuel storage depots	—	1	1

TABLE B
Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>Number of persons employed</i>
(1)	(2)
Offices	306
Retail Shops	589
Wholesale departments, warehouses	53
Catering establishments open to the Public	93
Canteens	—
Fuel Storage depots	5
	Total
	1,046

Total Males 413

Total Females 633

TABLE D — Exemptions
Nil

TABLE E — Prosecutions
Nil

TABLE F — Inspectors

Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Smoke Control Areas

It is disappointing to report that we have not yet had the opportunity to operate a Smoke Control Area within the Urban District.

Whereas clean food and water are accepted as an essential part of our life, we continue to live with a polluted atmosphere. Is it not time to regard coal in its true position as a valuable raw material from which smokeless fuels may be derived to heat the home?

Prior Approval for Boiler Plant

Three applications for prior approval of boiler plant have been received and recommendations made.

**East Midland Division of National Society for Clean Air
N.E. Derbyshire Consultative Committee for Clean Air**

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Councillor M. Hewitt, and I, attended the meetings of the Society and the local Consultative Committee during the year. We found these meetings most interesting and instructive.

Smoke Measuring Instruments

Daily records have been kept and submitted to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The instruments, one situated in the centre of Somercotes and the other situated at the office in the central area of the town, are both set up with equipment to make records of sulphur dioxide concentrations by the volumetric method. (See Statistic Details).

DAILY SMOKE FILTER

The following information is obtained by the use of two daily smoke filter apparatus at—

1. Public Health Inspector's Office, "The Firs", High Street, Alfreton.
2. Council Buildings, Somercotes Market Place, Somercotes.

Month 1965	Rainfall in inches	Concentrations of Smoke and SO2 in Microgrammes per 100 cu. m. of Air									
		ALFRETON				SOMERCOTES					
		SMOKE		SO2		SMOKE		SO2			
		Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average Value	Highest Value	Lowest Value
January	2.93	231	528	28	210	241	560	32	107	337	17
February	0.62	313	1064	28	271	264	816	40	189	470	83
March	0.86	290	572	48	250	271	536	64	192	691	59
April	1.41	127	552	24	155	158	500	40	139	325	47
May	2.97	108	220	12	172	92	172	32	165	362	73
June	3.07	73	157	11	115	66	135	21	100	181	54
July	3.22	91	178	34	96	80	136	40	98	166	38
August	2.29	91	196	19	96	92	200	31	96	185	41
September	5.41	153	277	44	117	127	271	38	95	165	30
October	0.65	279	762	50	140	211	428	49	113	214	50
November	4.92	257	1419	44	196	206	753	60	102	337	38
December	7.12	185	605	39	180	186	573	53	74	331	40

The amount of deposited matter is indicated at the one station within the District and an estimation of the sulphur in the atmosphere determined by the Lead Peroxide Method.

BURTONS, HIGH STREET, ALFRETON				FIRS GARDEN	SOMERCOTES Market Place
1965	No. of days	Rainfall (in inches)	DEPOSITED MATTER		
			Total Water Insoluble Matter (Tons per sq. ml.)	Total Water Soluble Matter (Tons per sq. ml.)	Total Solids (Tons per sq. ml.)
January	31	3.05	5.33	6.65	11.98
February	28	0.82	5.50	4.77	10.27
March	31	3.16	14.49	9.18	23.67
April	30	1.99	18.90	10.53	29.43
May	31	2.97	8.89	6.29	15.18
June	30	3.05	12.15	6.25	18.40
July	29	3.31	6.06	7.60	13.66
August	32	1.88	7.90	4.77	12.67
September	30	4.68	7.60	6.55	14.15
October	31	0.80	8.33	5.07	13.40
November	30	No. result	5.73	No result	5.73
December	30	4.65	7.90	5.04	12.94
Wind Direction	North	South	East	West	North-East
January	—	—	—	—	North-West
February	—	—	—	—	15 days
March	—	—	—	—	15 "
April	—	—	—	9 days	5 "
May	—	—	—	8 "	4 "
June	—	—	—	15 "	3 "
July	—	3 days	—	11 "	—
August	—	6 "	—	12 "	1 day
September	—	—	—	11 "	—
October	—	1 day	2 days	2 "	—
November	5 days	—	11 "	—	7 days
December	—	4 days	—	9 "	9 "
					South-East
					—
					8 days
					—
					14 days
					17 "
					12 "
					13 "
					10 "
					9 "
					7 "
					7 "
					3 "
					9 "
					—

November—Gauge overflowed and therefore the results are restricted to insoluble matters only.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

One application for registration under the Act was received from the Parkside Riding School.

The premises were inspected along with an officer of the Fire Service and a Veterinary Officer and the requirements carried out by the occupier.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Applications were received for the renewal of licences to keep Pet Shops by Mr. C. Bagguley, 4 High Street, Swanwick; Mrs. A. King, 71 Mansfield Road, Alfreton; and Mr. G. Marvin, 13 High Lane, Ridgeway, Sheffield (pet stall on Alfreton Market). All three applications were approved subject to no nuisance being caused and the payment of the requisite fee.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1954

HAIRDRESSERS — SECTION 146

Hairdressing establishments in the area are registered and inspected prior to approval. The table shows the number of premises and changes during the year.

Number of registered premises, December, 1964 ...	38
Number of premises closed during 1965	2
Number of premises registered during 1965	2
	—
Number of registered premises, December, 1965 ...	38
	—

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

CELLULOSE SOLUTION REGULATIONS, 1934

PETROLEUM SPIRIT (CONVEYANCE BY ROAD) REGULATIONS, 1959

HOME OFFICE CIRCULARS 5/1, Etc.

Number of licences issued to store petroleum during 1965	42
Number of licences issued to store petrol in can stores during 1965	6
Number of licences issued to store carbide during 1965 ...	1
Total storage capacity of petroleum spirit in tanks and can stores	86,935 galls.
Total storage capacity of carbide of calcium	112 lbs.
Fees collected in respect of petroleum licences ...	£36 15s. 0d.
Fees collected in respect of can store licences ...	£1 10s. 0d.
Fees collected in respect of carbide licences	5s. 0d.

All licensed premises have been inspected during the year and arrangements made for pressure testing of tanks which have been installed for 20 years.

All underground tanks are subject to an air pressure test of 10 lbs. per sq. inch for a minimum period of 10 hours before approval. The petrol tank to be totally embedded in massed fine concrete not less than 9 inches thick, or alternatively, a brick chamber in 9 inches of brickwork, cement rendered on the inside with 1 inch of cement and a minimum of 9 inches of dry washed sand surrounding the tank. The tank to rest on a cradle at the base of the tank.

I wish to record my appreciation of the co-operation of the Chief Fire Officer, H. Terry, Esq., M.B.E., M.I.R.T.E., and his officers during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The department is responsible for a continuous effort to control rodent infestations in the district.

53 such complaints were received and satisfactorily dealt with. Daily inspections are made by the Rodent Operator of the tips and their surroundings and evidence of an infestation, however small, is quickly noticed, and the necessary action taken. Legal proceedings were not required and it is pleasing to record that all owners and occupiers of property are usually most anxious to co-operate in the eradication of rats, mice and other vermin.

I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operation of the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Nottingham, and also to the Pest Control Department, for their valuable assistance in dealing with complaints received re rabbits and other pests under their control. A special word of thanks to Miss B. Jones and to Mr. Oates.

There are no serious infestations in farms.

Sewer treatments were carried out twice during the year and frequent inspections and treatment as required carried out at sewage disposal works, refuse tips and depots.

Complaints from householders regarding wasps nests, silver fish, ants, cockroaches, etc., are also dealt with by the department.

The following work under this heading has been carried out.

	<i>First Treatment</i>	<i>Second Treatment</i>
Alfreton	76	30
Somercotes	40	10
Leabrooks	7	7
Pye Bridge	4	4
Swanwick	20	10
Riddings	21	10
Codnor Park	15	15
Golden Valley	3	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	186	89
Total		275

Sewage Works

All sewage works have been visited during the year and the following have received treatment.

Alfreton	.....	2
Highfields	.....	1
Swanwick	.....	1
Pye Bridge	.....	1

After treatment no further activity was noticeable.

54 visits have been made to sewage works and Council premises and 17 treatments given; 80 visits were made to Council houses, etc., and 30 treatments given; 487 visits were made to private houses, 174 treatments given; 106 visits were made to business premises and 39 treatments given; smallholdings, etc. 185 visits were made and 60 treatments given.

Total number of visits made during the year:—

Sewer inspection chambers	... ..	275
Council houses, etc.	... ..	80
Private houses	... ..	487
Business premises	... ..	106
Other visits, including farms and smallholdings		185
		<hr/> 1,133 <hr/>

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Public Cleansing Service

The financial details relating to this service relate to the year ending 31st March, 1966. The figures have been checked against the books kept by the Council's Financial officer. Every possible economy has been effected consistent with the maintenance of an efficient service.

Staff

The staff of the public cleansing department is as follows:—

Refuse collection

3 Motor drivers
9 Loaders
5 Wheelers out
4 Bin Lads

Refuse Disposal

1 Driver—Muleadozer
2 men, tip face

Nightsoil collection and disposal

1 Driver
1 Loader

Depot

1 Foreman
1 Man

Salvage

2 men baling paper and textiles
1 Man baled destructor scrap and metals.

Also the wages of three men divided between 31 men as a bonus.

Collection

We have maintained the weekly collection of domestic and trade refuse from all premises within the district. The object of the department is to provide the ratepayers with the best possible service at all times of the year and my thanks are due to the members of the department engaged on this work, upon whose co-operation the service depends.

We endeavour to remove all articles the householders wish to dispose of and make separate collections where it is necessary to clear a house of its effects.

Protective Clothing

As in the previous year all workmen have been provided with two suits of overalls and one pair of protective gloves. Reinforced gloves are provided for handling baled destructor scrap, etc. Each workman is also provided with a donkey jacket, and the men working on the face of the tip issued with protective legginettes.

Depot

Messroom, locker room, showers and clothes drying room are provided for the workmen. Our object is to make available facilities comparable with the industries outside local government.

Garages

We have one large garage (containing an inspection pit) for two S. and D. Fore and Aft Refuse Collectors. On each side we have a smaller building. One is used for garaging the Muledozer, the other as a workshop for the stripping, sorting and grading of non-ferrous metals prior to sale. There is also a Paper Baling Shed with extensions providing accommodation for three S. and D. Refuse Collectors.

Nightsoil Collection

A regular service was maintained at premises in the area. Closet pails were emptied at least once per week; in cases of overcrowded premises pails are emptied twice weekly. Cesspools have been emptied free of charge twice per year, and where necessary, additional clearances have been charged for. The revenue from these sources can be ascertained by reference to the costing report on services.

Leabrooks Controlled Tip

The refuse tip at Leabrooks consists of three areas of land. The first of $4\frac{3}{4}$ acres containing the depot and buildings completed in 1947. The second area of $6\frac{3}{4}$ acres acquired by lease in 1947 and levelled off this year. The third site of 3 acres has recently been purchased.

MOTORS ACCOUNT

	S. & D. 1			S. & D. 2			S. & D. 3			S. & D. 4			Muledozer	Surveyor's Vehicles		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£
Service																
Drivers' Wages	750	4	2	752	5	1	753	2	2	544	17	0	702	6	11	
On Costs	142	19	3	143	7	1	143	10	4	103	16	7	133	16	11	
Petrol and Diesel	152	1	8	122	10	0	205	12	6	99	11	8	31	5	5	
Oils	13	5	0	13	5	0	13	5	0	13	5	0	4	9	7	
Licences	171	0	0	162	0	0	169	0	0	—	—	—*	72	0	0	
Repairs	313	18	7	113	11	9	334	9	8	287	0	8	144	17	5	
Miscellaneous (including Insurance, Depreciation, etc.)	523	13	2	471	0	9	551	1	10	365	13	4	112	13	0	
Surveyor's Department																23 16 0
	2067	1	10	1777	19	8	2170	1	6	1414	4	3	1201	9	3	23 16 0

ALLOCATION OF EXPENDITURE ON MOTORS

House Refuse Collection	1944	17	7	1730	15	7	1923	0	6							
House Refuse Disposal													1200	0	6	
Trade Refuse Collection	78	18	9	36	8	9	104	4	2	19	3					
Salvage	43	5	6	10	15	4	142	16	10				1	8	9	
Nightsoil Collection							1294	3	3							
Control of Pests							20	12	11							23 16 0
Depot							14	17	9							
Surveyor's Dept.							83	11	1							
	2067	1	10	1777	19	8	2170	1	6	1414	4	3	1201	9	3	23 16 0

N.B. *S. & D. 4. Now classed as street cleansing vehicle.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

					Tons	£	s.	d.
S. & D. (1) removed	...	...	...	...	2,306	1,944	17	7
S. & D. (2) „	...	...	...	...	4,252	1,730	15	7
S. & D. (3) „	...	...	...	...	3,791	1,923	0	6
					<hr/>	<hr/>		
Based on Test Weighing	...	...	...	...	10,349	£5,598	13	8
					<hr/>	<hr/>		

The wages of the loaders (excluding on costs), £10,394 9s. 10d., together with £5,598 13s. 8d. cost of motors, gives a figure of 30s. 11d. per ton compared with 27s. 6d. in 1964/65.

Wages including on costs were, loaders £12,375 7s. 0d., together with £5,598 13s. 8d. cost of motors, giving a figure of 34s. 9d. per ton compared with 30s. 8d. per ton in 1964/65.

TRADE REFUSE

The income from 35 business premises for the collection of trade refuse not having any salvage value, and including various firms who deposit refuse on the tip at a charge of 2s. 6d. per ton or 5s. per load depending upon the material, was £371 7s. 4d.

TRADE REFUSE COLLECTION

Expenditure				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loaders' wages	...	...	...	127	18	9			
Hire of lorries	...	...	...	220	10	11			
				<hr/>			348	9	8
Income									
Trade refuse	...	...	...	...			371	7	4
							<hr/>		
1964 £6 13s. 6d. Cr.							£22	17	8 Cr.
							<hr/>		

755 tons of trade refuse were collected, and 461 tons of trade refuse were deposited at Leabrooks tip, making a total of 1,216 tons.

SALVAGE ACCOUNT

Expenditure								£	s.	d.
Lorry Hire	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	198	6	5
Wages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3286	4	6
Baling Wire	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75	5	0
Repairs to presses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	3	3
Sundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	0	0
								<hr/>		
1964, £3288 18s. 0d.								£3627	19	2
								<hr/>		

Income	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed waste paper ...	151	6	0	0	1358	8	7
Newspaper	58	8	1	0	525	14	3
Fibreboard	71	15	1	0	701	10	5
Baled destructor scrap ...	109	18	1	0	666	15	8
Medium cast iron	7	5	0	0	65	15	9
Clean light iron	37	12	0	0	71	1	3
Mixed wrought iron and steel	8	14	1	0	75	11	1
Non-ferrous metals ...	1	15	0	10	306	17	4
	446	14	0	10	3771	14	4

REFUSE DISPOSAL ACCOUNT

Expenditure	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages on tip	2601	10	5			
Lorry hire	—	—	—			
Muledozer	1200	0	6			
Sundries	182	5	8			

1964, £3470 16s. 4d.

£3983 16 7

11,565 tons of refuse were disposed of at 6s. 11d. per ton as compared with 6s. 6d. per ton in 1964.

NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL ACCOUNT

Expenditure	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loaders' wages	577	9	8			
Lorry hire	1294	3	3			
Sundries	3	1	6			
				1874	14	5

Income

Emptying cesspools				114	11	2
---------------------------	--	--	--	-----	----	---

1964, £2215 2s. 10d.

£1760 3 3

1,481 tons of nightsoil were collected at a cost of 23s. 10d. per ton, compared with 16s. 1d. per ton in 1964.

COMBINED COSTING

Collection of Wet and Dry Refuse:—

	Tons	£	s.	d.
House refuse	10349	15993	3	6
Nightsoil	1481	1760	3	3
Trade refuse	755	22	17	8 Cr.
	12585	£17730	9	1

This gives a figure of 28s. 2d. per ton as compared with 24s. per ton in 1964.

SICKNESS RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1965/66

	<i>Sick Pay</i>	<i>Unpaid Sickness</i>	<i>Other time lost</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Number of men involved ...	22	6	25	53 (actual 35)
2. Hours lost	2485	293½	1313	4091½
3. Percentage of (2) to (5) ...	3.7	0.45	2.0	6.15
4. Total number of men employed	...	...	...	31
5. Possible working hours	...	...	...	66573
6. Percentage of registered disabled persons to total staff:				
(a) commencement of period	...	...	...	3.23
(b) end of period	...	...	...	3.23
7. Number in (1) absent through illness	...	...	...	27
accident	...	...	...	1

EFFICIENCY STATISTICS

Collection of house and trade refuse (including salvage collected separately). (As supplied to the Ministry for inclusion in the Annual Costing Return).

Number of premises from which refuse is collected, as per Rating and Valuation Roll	...	8381
Number of dustbins emptied weekly per annum	...	8805
Estimated tonnage	...	11551
*Number of collectors	...	15
Weight of refuse collected per man hour per day (365 days per annum)	...	1.5 cwts.
*Number of bins emptied per man hour	...	14.0
*Number of premises cleared per man hour	...	13.1
Unit costs:		
Gross expenditure per ton	...	32/1
Net cost per ton	...	32/5
Net cost per 1,000 population	...	£822
Net cost per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected	...	£2237
Total refuse collected (in tons)	...	11551
Weight (in cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days per annum)	...	11551

*Excluding driver who does not load.

CONTROL OF PESTS

Expenditure	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages 	341	6	7			
Materials 	77	9	10			
	<hr/>			418	16	5
Income						
Business premises 	24	12	1			
	<hr/>					
1964, £320 19s. 10d.				£394	4	4
				<hr/>		

I would like to conclude my report by expressing my appreciation to the chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for the support they have given me, to the Clerk of the Council, the Medical Officer of Health and the Surveyor for their helpful co-operation during the year.

In the department I would thank my assistant, Mr. R. Lander; Mrs. L. Day and Miss J. Clarke for their work in the office, and Mr. T. A. Smith for his services in the Cleansing Department.

I welcome to the staff Mr. D. Wrigglesworth (appointed December, 1965), as Authorized Meat Inspector, and Miss J. Rowley (appointed September, 1965), as Student Public Health Inspector, and wish them every success with the department.

Finally, I record my thanks to my former Chief, Mr. E. Mercer, for his interest and co-operation; an interest which I know he will maintain in the work of the department in his retirement.

B. WELLS,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

Surveyor's Report for 1965

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Alfreton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

This year the report has been reduced so that it only contains matters which directly or indirectly affect the health of the population.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

New Sewage Scheme—Stage III Alfreton

Stage II of the new scheme, the Swanwick Works and combined sewers to these works, was completed during 1965. Towards the end of this year, plans were commenced for Stage III at Alfreton. It will be recalled that the two existing sewage works at Highfields and Meadow Lane are to be replaced by a new works to the north of Alfreton Colliery. Two new combined gravity main sewers are to be laid from Sleetmoor Lane and from Nix's Hill area to a pumping station near Wingfield Road junction with A.61, and the sewage pumped northwards over the ridge and then gravitating to the new works. A large new combined gravity main sewer is to be laid from the Cotes Park area to the new works, picking up existing sewers on its way.

The preparation of this scheme is being hampered and delayed by three new factors.

(1) The proposal to close down all the collieries in the area in the next few years and the consequent urgent need for new industries to be introduced immediately. At a new industrial site at Cotes Park three new industries are to be commenced, and two of these are "wet." The trade effluents from these "wet" industries will necessitate the new works to be three times their original size and a very large new gravity sewer to be laid. Late decisions by the firms and by other authorities caused delay in the preparation of the scheme and this will mean that the overloaded Meadow Lane Works will have to deal with trade effluents for a period until the new works are complete. Agreement has been reached with the Opencast Executive to use an additional six acres of land that they eventually intend to opencast, for the purpose of land treatment.

(2) The coincidence of the new southern by-pass to Alfreton being constructed at the same time as the sewage scheme. This will affect the new main sewer from Cotes Park and several small sewers which cross the by-pass line and the siting of the large roundabout near Wingfield Road will affect the position of the pump station.

(3) The areas west of the trunk road and north of Alfreton Colliery are to be opencasted whilst the works in connection with the sewage scheme are being constructed.

Proposals for additions in the Birchwood—Pye Bridge Area

The sewage works at Pye Bridge are now working to capacity and because of the possibility of additional sewage being sent there, the Council decided to consider both immediate and future needs. Although the County Planning Officer in a letter stressed the possibility of sewage from the Pinxton and South Normanton areas eventually coming to sewage works in the Urban District, it was decided that provision could not be made for it at this stage. The Consulting Engineers have, however, been instructed to prepare a preliminary scheme for the Urban District needs.

MAINTENANCE

Pye Bridge Sewage Works

Extensive flooding during the months December, January and February, 1965-66 (seven times in all) has taken place due to the silting up of the River Erewash.

Consequent difficulties have been encountered in the drying of sludge due to the drying areas being flooded for weeks on end. Sludge disposal has been easier as farmers at Birchwood Lane and Riddings have been prepared to take almost all the dried sludge during the summer months.

During the winter months the limited sludge drying area has affected the final effluent discharge and made it difficult to give a good polish to the effluent, but Royal Commission standards have been complied with.

Swanwick Sewage Works

Some flooding has taken place due to water backing up in the discharge dyke. The difficulties will be overcome before the winter of 1966 by cutting a new dyke along this boundary.

The works have been operating more satisfactorily since the Fatstock Marketing Corporation installed their own blood extractors and carted almost all the blood away.

The digestion tanks were working to their designed capacity by the end of 1965.

Highfields Sewage Works

It is still a major problem here to keep the works operating satisfactorily due to the age of the equipment and mining subsidence.

Meadow Lane Sewage Works

Because of serious overloading and age of equipment it has not been practical to obtain a satisfactory final effluent. There has been a considerable improvement however since all available land has been used to its fullest extent.

Public Conveniences

The Council have continued their very commendable policy of eventually providing a modern public convenience in all wards.

A new one at Swanwick has been erected this year, and plans are prepared and sites being purchased for conveniences at Riddings and Ironville.

However, the actions of certain members of the public make them very difficult to maintain.

Despite the many efforts made to combat hooliganism, serious damage continues to be done to all the public conveniences in the district. Design has increasingly been concerned with this problem together with the provision of all the facilities desirable in such amenities. The two problems are rarely compatible.

To prevent defacement of the walls by writing, the whole of the public areas are tiled in an attempt to provide a light and pleasing surface which is easily cleaned. The tiles themselves have been deliberately smashed.

Hand washing facilities are provided with hot water and soap. Towels provided have been slashed and mis-used and hot air hand drying equipment built into the walls so that only the dispensing nozzle itself is within the public area was wrecked as soon as it was installed. To comply with the letter of the law and provide a cold water tap over an inset small wash basin without any hand drying facilities would inevitably lead to a lowering of the standards of cleanliness in conveniences where full time supervision is not provided—floors would become flooded and walls defaced. All equipment capable of being removed from the public area to a service corridor has been removed, wooden doors which were consistently kicked in have been replaced by expensive metal clad doors—these are scratched and engraved with the usual obscenities associated with public conveniences. It would appear that a permanent attendant is the only answer, or to reduce the facilities to the minimum and so let the scale of the amenity be dictated by the few hooligans whose punishment when caught appears to be quite inadequate.

HIGHWAYS

Development

In the Alfreton Urban District there are 35 miles of existing carriageway, of which $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles are trunk road, $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles are county roads, and 20 miles are district roads and streets.

At the end of 1966 it is anticipated that the M.1 extension will have been opened as far as Pinxton and two years later that the southern by-pass to Alfreton and feeder to the M.1 will have been constructed.

The construction of these roads and the repairs of the existing roads are and will be a source of inconvenience and noise nuisance to the general public, but these are factors that have to be put up with in a rapidly developing district.

Improvements

Two new car parks were constructed off Rodgers Lane, Alfreton, with a new access to Firs House. The original access onto A.615 which created a traffic hazard was sealed off except for pedestrians. The high wall enclosing the Regional Library was demolished and Rodgers Lane widened. This could not be completed immediately because of services, etc. to the new telephone exchange and supermarket.

During the early part of the year various roads (i.e., B.6016, B.6017 and A.613) had to be strengthened to carry the constructional traffic carrying materials to the M.1 extension.

A road widening scheme was partially carried out in Swanwick Road, Leabrooks; this could not be finished entirely because of difficulties in the acquisition of some of the land required.

New foundations have been constructed on part of the A.613 (Seely Terrace) and B.6017 (High Street, Somercotes). In a short length of Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes, new foundations have been laid and the road lifted approximately 18in. to take out excessive dip in the carriageway.

An improved access was formed at the junction of Alma Street with A.613 and foundations for future road widening scheme were also laid.

Hot rolled asphalt was laid along the length of B.6016 from Hayes Lane, to Leabrooks Corner.

The resurfacing of Cockshot Lane — Norman Road and Industrial Site has been carried out.

79,160 yards sup. of carriageway on County and District Roads have been surface dressed.

In accordance with the Worboys Report, waiting restriction signs have been put up and double yellow lines painted on roads in the Alfreton Town area.

A total of 3,500 yards lin. of new kerbs have been laid, and 7,000 yards of new footpaths constructed during the year.

A new set of protective clothing has been issued to all workmen. Toilet, cooking and washing facilities, including showers with constant hot water have been made available at Cotes Park Depot to all workmen.

Compressor Noise

In an effort to reduce noise nuisance during road works, all the Council's compressor drills have been fitted with special silencers, and these have proved to be very effective. It is hoped that private contractors and undertakings will take note and follow suit.

HOUSING

Progress

It was the Council's policy during 1965 to keep the number of council houses under construction to a minimum due to the very high Bank Rate.

There have been 16 two-bedroom council houses built during the year and the warden's bungalow scheme at Alfreton was finished off early in 1965. 27 houses and bungalows have been completed by private enterprise.

Older Houses

Housing repairs, particularly on the older houses, present great problems in view of the small amount of money available for this purpose. In a few of the houses there is still no electricity installed and in a few others only lighting wiring is available. An effort is being made to eliminate these two problems as soon as possible.

Many of the older houses have very old cooking ranges, and spare parts for these are difficult to obtain. Replacements are being made when necessary, with the provision of approved type low grates and gas cookers, bearing in mind the possibility of a smokeless zone in the future. Tenants who are willing to purchase their own firegrates are having them fitted free of charge.

Replacement of very badly corroded metal windows is a problem being tackled ahead of the exterior house painters and the change over from wood to metal gates proceeds as quickly as finances will allow.

Warden's Schemes

The warden's scheme at Alfreton has now been running long enough to show that it will be a huge success. All the old people seem particularly happy in their new homes. A problem caused through the old people being unable to manipulate the Parkray 4X fireplaces has been exceedingly difficult to solve. Very little help has been available from the makers and the grates have now all been replaced in these twenty bungalows. The problem still remains in many other houses and bungalows. A laundrette and community room have been provided, the latter being fully furnished and television provided. Success is in a large part due to the enthusiasm of the warden.

Further similar schemes are being planned for Ironville, Riddings, Swanwick and Somercotes.

HOUSING PROGRAMME SUMMARY AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1965

(a)	Pre-war Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	456
	Providence Place, Alfreton (existing houses purchased in 1957)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

Catherine Street, Alfreton (existing houses purchased in 1957)	7
Alfred Street, Riddings (existing houses purchased in 1957)	6
Birchwood Lane, Somercotes (existing houses purchased in 1960)	3
Coupland Place, Somercotes (existing house purchased in 1962)	1
Nottingham Road, Alfreton (existing house purchased in 1965)	1

(b) Post-war Houses:—

Pease Close Housing Site, Alfreton.

Two-bedroom bungalows	14
One-bedroom bungalows	8
Three-bedroom houses	88
Two-bedroom houses	112
Gregory Flats	40
Two-bedroom houses	6

Firs Estate, Alfreton.

Firs Estate, three-bedroom	124
Firs Estate Extension, two-bedroom	130
Firs Estate Extension, three bedroom	22
Firs Estate Extension, bungalows	4
Firs Estate Extension, two bedrooms	12

Limes Avenue, Alfreton.

Three-bedroom houses	32
Two-bedroom houses	98
Bungalows	8

Colin Street, Alfreton.

Bungalows	14
Two-bedroom houses	10

Rodgers Lane, Alfreton.

Three-bedroom houses	3
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Swanwick—South Street and Western Avenue

Houses—Three-bedroom	42
Aluminium Bungalows	20

Birchwood Lane, Somercotes.

Houses—Three-bedroom	4
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Ironville.

Houses—Three-bedroom	4
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Cottage Farm Estate, Somercotes.

Three-bedroom houses	132
Two-bedroom houses	104
Two-bedroom bungalows	8
One-bedroom bungalows	10

Parkside, Somercotes.									
Two-bedroom houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Windmill Estate, Riddings.									
Houses—Three-bedroom	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
South Spire Site, Somercotes.									
Three-bedroom houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Two-bedroom houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Two-bedroom bungalows	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Firs House, Alfreton.									
Flats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miners' Hostel Site, Alfreton.									
Bungalows	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
								1178	1178
									1664

Houses for Sale

Birchwood Lane

Three-bedroom	4
Two-bedroom	4

North Street, Alfreton.

Two-bedroom	10
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Beech Avenue, Alfreton.

Three-bedroom	10
Two-bedroom	42
								70	

Alfreton Lido

Despite the poor summer of 1965, there were 132,480 people attended the Lido as swimmers of these 11,640 were schoolchildren in organised parties for instruction, and 47,778 people as spectators. During the season some of the paving slabs surrounding the pool were etched with acid to prevent them becoming too slippery.

Overloading of the children's paddling pool necessitated alterations in the filtration and chlorination equipment to obtain a satisfactory standard of water. Very great care has been taken over the disinfection of the footbaths and the changing room floors. An iodine base disinfectant has been used which although it looks unpleasant is extremely effective.

Water Supply

Towards the end of 1965, residents in the Somercotes, Riddings, Ironville and Swanwick areas noticed a difference in the quality of their water. The South Derbyshire Water Board are supplying a water unprecedented in its hardness in this Urban District. Under a re-organisation scheme, instead of supplying from Derwent Valley sources, they are making available water from Holmesford, which is very hard due to an almost total breakdown of softening equipment at these works. The Council are pursuing this matter with the Water Board, as although there appears to be no direct threat to health apart from the inconvenience and distress to householders, it would appear that there may be some danger to life and limb through the possibility of the clogging up of hot water circulation pipes in heating and central heating systems.

River Erewash

It has been the concern of this Local Authority for many years that the Erewash in the Ironville area and below has been silting up very rapidly. The point has now been reached that a heavy storm even of only moderate duration can cause:—(a) flooding of the county road, causing hazards and inconvenience to traffic; (b) flooding of houses and gardens in this Urban District and the neighbouring authority causing a danger to health; (c) flooding of the recreation ground, damaging tennis courts, a bowling green and store sheds; (d) the bursting on this ground of a large diameter culvert causing danger to children and the risk of infection; (e) flooding of the sewage works at Pye Bridge. Representations have been made to the River Board and the County Council on this matter, with no avail.

I wish to thank the Chairman of the Alfreton Urban District Council, the chairmen of all committees and members of the Council for their support and help, and to my staff for their help and co-operation.

F. P. WALTERS,
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Alfreton Urban District Council.

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